

CLASSIFICATION SECRET/SECURITY INFORMATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SOURCE

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Yes. both in the USSR and in the Soviet Zone of Germany had served a tour of duty in Poland.

They were all on duty with Soviet units, mostly aviation, on the Baltic coast. The Soviets control a group of islands off shore from Gdynia, and are supervising the building of a highway along the entire northern boundary of Poland and inland approximately 20 to 25 miles.

I knew no one who served with Army units. All information is hearsay and very sketchy. I cannot identify or locate any Polish Army units.

Yes. Many Satellite officers, particularly Poles, attend schools in the USSR. These officers are of staff level or higher and are usually in the Soviet Union for training in political indoctrination although high level Soviet military tactics are also studied.

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State	Army	Air	Nav	Mar	Sec	Int	Ext	Gen	Adm	Fin	Ind	Lab	Med	Rel	Sci	Univ	Youth	Other
X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

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There are many Soviet officers serving with Polish Army units and probably teaching in Polish schools of all types. I met a Colonel at Political school in Potsdam, Eastern Germany. The Colonel was completing his tour of duty in Germany and expected to return to the USSR, but instead was ordered to Poland, where he would teach political indoctrination theories to Polish officers. There are many Soviet officers on duty in Poland. Before being assigned there they were given courses in the Polish language which they presumably were able to speak before reporting for duty. In Soviet officers' schools, German and Polish were taught to all officers who were to have a tour of duty in either Germany or Poland. Many Soviet officers serving in Poland were Polish by birth. [redacted] in 1948 or 1949 when the Soviets were building up the Polish Army they picked out Soviet soldiers and officers with Polish sounding names or Polish names and transferred them to the Polish Army. A [redacted] who had never been in Poland, could not speak Polish and had no Polish ancestry, although his name sounded Polish, was drafted and presumably is now an officer in the Polish army. I don't know much about faculty and curricula of Polish schools and academies.

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[redacted] a number of Satellite officers, Czechs, Bulgarian, Rumanians, Poles. There were more Polish officers than any others.

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[redacted] in Poland that they participated in or observed Polish troops at training areas. These places were in the north and west sections of Poland, but could not be said to be joint maneuver areas. The Polish troops received orders and instructions in Polish which sounded strange to the Russian-speaking officers. They were even slightly amused to hear Slavic syllables as commands, which had an entirely different meaning in the Russian language than they had in Polish.

9.

Probably divisional, certainly regimental. [redacted] but am

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10.

Yes.

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11.

The Polish soldier is an excellent fighter, and I believe he would fight with the Soviets in either a defensive or offensive war. However, the Polish civilian population is most untrustworthy and in case of trouble would be a real problem.

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Very large. But I have no idea of an approximate strength figure. I would hazard a guess, and this is purely my own idea, that the Polish Army has on active duty about 300,000 men.

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13.

No. That is Army alone.

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14.

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No. The only women in uniform [redacted] in Poland were nurses (officers) in a military hospital, [redacted]

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